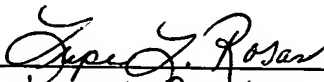


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 13, 2004.


LUPE L. ROSAS

Printed Name

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S): Jean M. Bonaldo

DOCKET:

SERIAL NO.:

ART UNIT: 3763 (Tentative)

FILED:

EXAMINER:

TITLE: NEEDLELESS LUER ACTIVATED MEDICAL CONNECTOR

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 13, 2004

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - RULES 1.97 AND 1.98

The publications listed on the attached PTO Form, comprise art of which applicants are aware which may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with Rule 1.56. This Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made nor an admission that any information referred to

herein is in fact material to patentability.

Choudbury, et al U.S. Pat. 5,520,666 issued May 28, 1996 discloses a needle type medical valve in which a resilient slitted valve member is moved over a rigid cannula to open the valve.

Villancourt U.S. Pat. 5,669,891 issued Sep. 23, 1997 discloses a needle type female Luer connector having a floating hollow needle which pierces a slitted resilient septum as a male Luer part engages and pushes the septum over the needle.

Bonaldo U.S. Pat. 5,947,954 issued Sept. 7, 1999 discloses a needleless luer actuated medical connector.


Lopez U.S. Pat. 6,132,403 issued October 17, 2000 discloses a medical valve having a hollow spike which passes through a resilient seal to move openings near the end of the spike past the seal to open the valve and allow fluid to flow through the hollow spike. The seal may have a wall consisting of a plurality of ringed or toroidal portions that collapse in accordian like fashion.

Bonaldo U.S. Pat. 6,364,869 issued April 2, 2002 discloses a medical flowline connector with a slitted resilient stopper which is opened by the end of an axially extending elongated post configured with lobes defining flow passageways alongside the post. The stopper may have an accordian like skirt.

Lopez U.S. patent application No. 2002/0138047A1 published September 26, 2002,

like the Lopez '403 patent mentioned above, discloses a needleless medical valve having a hollow spike which passes through a resilient seal to move openings near the end of the spike past the seal to open the valve and allow fluid to flow through the hollow spike. The seal may have a wall consisting of a plurality of ringed or toroidal portions that collapse in accordion like fashion.

Respectfully submitted,



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(213) 688-1143

FORM PTO-1449

LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

MASTERSITEIV

APPLICATION NO.

CONFIRMATION NO.

APPLICANT

BONALDO, Jean M.

FILING DATE

GROUP

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | PUBLICATION DATE | NAME | Pages, Columns; Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear |
|---------------------|----|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| | 1A | 5,520,666 | 05/28/96 | Choudbury, et al | |
| | 1B | 5,669,891 | 09/23/97 | Villancourt | |
| | 1C | 5,947,954 | 09/07/99 | Bonaldo | |
| | 1D | 6,132,403 | 10/17/00 | Lopez | |
| | 1E | 6,364,869 | 04/02/02 | Bonaldo | |
| | 1F | 2002/0138047 | 09/26/02 | Lopez | |
| | 1G | | | | |
| | 1H | | | | |
| | 1I | | | | |
| | 1J | | | | |
| | 1K | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | PUBLICATION DATE | NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT | Pages/Columns/Lines Where Relevant Passages/Figures Appear | Check if Translation attached |
|--|----|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | 1L | | | | | |
| | 1M | | | | | |
| | 1N | | | | | |
| | 1O | | | | | |
| | 1P | | | | | |

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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|--|----|--|
| | 1Q | |
| | 1R | |
| | 1S | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED